

hackneytoday

Circulated to 108,000 homes and businesses by Hackney Council

Issue 465 15 May 2022



inside



Election results



Anti-racism



Jubilation!



Jay Blade's tour



Our Homes



THANK YOU & GOODBYE

www.hackney.gov.uk

It's goodbye... And hello!

AFTER more than 25 years, some 500 editions, weekly London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games coverage, a lawsuit and a global pandemic, Hackney Today – the Council's quarterly newspaper – and its sister publications, Hackney Life and Our Homes, are to end. But, watch this space...

A brief history of Hackney Today

The Council started publishing a magazine, called Hackney Today, in the mid-1990s, 10 times a year.

The glossy A4 magazine focused on a mixture of community and Council news.

By 2002, the magazine had evolved into a fortnightly newspaper in order to publish statutory notices, which are a legal requirement on councils in order to ensure that residents are kept informed about developments in their area, like planning applications or road closures.

In 2007, Hackney Today was redesigned and relaunched – in its current format – with more of a focus on community news and a larger What's On listings section.

The Mayor of Hackney at the time, Jules Pipe, said: "I hope you agree with me that the new-look Hackney Today is a real change for the better. It's brighter, cleaner, smarter and more community focused."

In May 2016, the first edition of Our Homes was launched, an insert within Hackney Today focusing on information for Council tenants, leaseholders and freeholders. It replaced a quarterly Hackney Homes newsletter and was published bi-monthly.

Later that year, the Government directed all councils to stop publishing fortnightly newspapers.

Following a judicial review, in 2019, the judge ruled in favour of a Government direction that the Council could only publish Hackney Today four times a year.

In 2019, Hackney Life was first published, focusing on providing information, not news.

It was created to ensure that as many people as possible continued to be aware of events, opportunities and services available to them in the borough in the months that Hackney Today was not published.

A new publication!

A new publication – called Love Hackney – is set to be launched next month, which will streamline the three existing titles the Council currently publishes.

Following feedback from a formal consultation that was held into the future of the Council's publications in 2020, the new publication will promote the borough's diverse culture sector and community groups. Feedback stated that readers are most interested in receiving information about local events, Council services, and other local news and community issues.

While use of the Council's website, social media and email channels continues to increase, a 2018 residents' survey showed that Hackney has a high rate of digital exclusion, with 11 per cent of residents unable to access digital channels.

The survey also showed a strong crossover between those who are digitally excluded and those that are regular users of Council services, need support and are target audiences for much of the Council's communications work. These groups also say they feel less listened to by the Council.

Print media remains a vital channel for the Council in reaching this audience. The publication's free door-to-door delivery means that vital information reaches residents across the borough's diverse communities, including those on low incomes or with no or limited access to the internet.

The Mayor of Hackney, Philip Glanville, said: "Hackney Today and its sister titles have been brilliant publications that have delivered vital information – and quite literally life-saving advice and guidance – through residents' doors during some of our darkest and most challenging times, such as throughout the pandemic and following the London riots.

"They were also a way of celebrating and championing the borough and its residents at the best of times, such as during the Olympics. From the listings



hackneytoday



We still love Hackney

IN August 2011 the Council produced a special edition of Hackney Today, which devoted the first 11 pages of the newspaper to mark the trauma of the London riots, and how Hackney communities rallied together in a show of unity.

The edition highlighted how businesses, residents, community and faith leaders supported each other in the aftermath of the riots, and how the Council's cleaning teams – as well as hundreds of volunteers – worked through the night to clean the borough up.

to local profiles they have showcased the very best of Hackney, so it is sad to see these papers end.

"But, following feedback with residents – who said they wanted to see changes to what we tell them and how we do that – we will be launching a more readable, modern magazine that will be loaded with more community news, as well as providing Council information in a more accessible way."



London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games
DURING the summer of 2012 Hackney Today published every week in order to cover the community and cultural activities that took place to mark the arrival of the Games in east London.

A major highlight was Radio 1's Hackney Big Weekend, which saw the likes of Jay-Z, Kanye West, Rhianna, Florence + the Machine, Jessie J, Tinie Tempah, Ed Sheeran and Jack White perform for free on Hackney Marshes.

Other coverage included the One Hackney Festival, which saw the Olympic torch arrive in the borough, the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and Games highlights.

Through Hackney Today, residents were also given hundreds of free tickets to both community and Olympic and Paralympic events.



Hackney Today: the greatest hits!

THERE have been so many amazing Council campaigns, community stories and national events that Hackney Today has covered over the years. Here is our pick of the best...



Pride and Stik
IN June 2016 Hackney Today collaborated with world-famous artist Stik to create a special pullout print of Stik's artwork, which could be turned into a placard for those in the Pride in London parade.

The local resident, whose singular stick figures are renowned across the globe, also created the bespoke banner especially for the Hackney entry in the parade, which advocates for LGBTQIA+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, (questioning), intersex, asexual, plus) equality.

Four years later, Stik again collaborated exclusively with Hackney Today, gifting residents a limited edition Stik poster distributed free with the paper.

Covid-19 global pandemic:
DURING the Covid-19 global pandemic, from March 2020 onwards, Hackney Life and Hackney Today continued publishing to give residents vital and up-to-date information on the situation, informing people of the latest lockdown rules, and letting residents know where to get vaccinated.

The monthly publications also forged a sense of community within the borough – that everyone was in the pandemic together – and highlighted the Council's strong pandemic response.

'Hello Again, Hackney' campaign

The Council launched the 'Hello Again, Hackney' campaign in the summer of 2021 to help arts and cultural organisations in the borough welcome back audiences safely as Covid-19 lockdown restrictions eased, with special offers, discounted tickets and pop-up events.

Highlights included an 8-page 'Welcome Back' supplement, informing residents what they could enjoy on their doorstep safely; a 16-page Summer Guide pull-out for all residents under the age of 18; and an 8-page Black History Season supplement.

welcomeback



Hackney Today, Yesterday & Tomorrow

TIMELINE showing the evolution of Hackney Today, Hackney Life and Our Homes



MID 1990s



2002

Hackney Today, a monthly magazine, launches



2007

Hackney Today becomes a fortnightly newspaper to hold the statutory notices



2012

5 November: Hackney Today, in its current design, launches



2016

July-September: Weekly editions of Hackney Today published to cover community events during the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games



2019

May: First Our Homes launches for Council tenants, leaseholders and freeholders



2022

July: First Hackney Life published, providing information, not news



April: Last Hackney Life published

May: Last editions of Hackney Today and Our Homes published

June: New publication set to be launched... watch this space!



Philip Glanville, of the Labour and Cooperative Party, has been re-elected as Mayor of Hackney, after taking 36,049 votes

PROMISE TO HELP

PHILIP Glanville, of the Labour and Cooperative Party, has been re-elected as the Mayor of Hackney, after securing just over 59 per cent of the votes in the local elections on 5 May.

It will be Mayor Glanville's second full term as the directly elected leader of the borough after taking 36,049 votes. Zoe Garbett, of the Green Party, came second, while Oliver Hall, of the Conservative Party, came third. The turnout was 34 per cent.

Local voters also elected the councillors who will represent them for the next four years. In total, Hackney now has 50 Labour Party, five Conservative Party, and two Green Party councillors.

The Green Party secured seats previously held by Labour in the Dalston and Hackney Downs wards.

Mayor Glanville has been in post since September 2016, following a by-election, which was triggered when long-standing Mayor Jules Pipe stepped down. He was directly elected again in 2018.

After the results were declared on 6 May, Mayor Glanville said: "I'd like to thank everyone who voted for me and put their trust in me to lead the borough for another four years. It's an enormous privilege to be re-elected Mayor of Hackney – and I'm looking forward to delivering the promises we made in the run-up to

the election: to work together for a better Hackney.

"Our manifesto sets out exciting and radical plans to build a better Hackney, and I am looking forward to continuing to work with Council officers, and even more importantly our diverse communities, to deliver them.

"We are in no doubt of the scale of the challenge facing not just us as local leaders but for everyone, up and down the country, in the face of the cost of living crisis and the pandemic recovery work.

"However, we have a powerful, people-focused plan to navigate these difficulties and to ensure Hackney continues to improve for those who live and work here.

"Among our many pledges,

we promise to help insulate homes to reduce energy bills; provide good jobs and opportunities for local people; create at least 300 more places for children with special educational needs and disabilities; invest £50 million in measures to tackle the climate emergency; build 1,000 Council homes; and continue to support our high streets and traders, including plans to reinvigorate Clapton and Homerton.

"Anti-racism will be front and centre of everything we do. We will assist better police-community relationships through meaningful engagement and monitoring groups; and work to ensure children and young people are informed of their rights."

inside

2



Election results

4



Anti-racism

8



Jubilation!

19



Hackney People

20



Jay Blade's tour



Our Homes





Hackney Today
is produced by
**Communications,
Culture and
Engagement at
London Borough of
Hackney, Hackney
Town Hall E8 1EA.**
E-mail: htnews@hackney.gov.uk

Editor
Sappho Lauder

Tel: 020 8356 3275
E: htnews@hackney.gov.uk

Hackney Today is published by the London Borough of Hackney. It has a print run of 108,000 copies and is delivered free to every home and business in the borough. The Council uses it to communicate public service information to residents. It is published fortnightly in order to carry statutory advertising, such as planning and traffic notices, which is cheaper for the taxpayer than using another local paper. The law does not allow for statutory notices to be published solely online or in a less frequent publication.

The paper's official, door-to-door delivery is 91,843 copies per issue, Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC)

Paid for advertising is carried in the paper to keep costs to a minimum. We reserve the right to refuse advertising. The products and services advertised in this paper do not carry the endorsement of Hackney Today or London Borough of Hackney

Printed by Trinity Mirror

Distributed by London Letterbox Marketing

If you do not receive Hackney Today call: 020 8356 3275; or e-mail: htnews@hackney.gov.uk

Hackney Today is printed on 100 per cent recycled paper.

Please make sure you recycle it after reading, so the paper can be used again

Hackney's wards in alphabetical order



1. BROWNSWOOD
2. CAZENOVE
3. CLISSOLD
4. DALSTON
5. DE BEAUVOIR
6. HACKNEY CENTRAL
7. HACKNEY DOWNS
8. HACKNEY WICK
9. HAGGERSTON
10. HOMERTON
11. HOXTON EAST & SHOREDITCH
12. HOXTON WEST
13. KING'S PARK
14. LEA BRIDGE
15. LONDON FIELDS
16. SHACKLEWELL
17. SPRINGFIELD
18. STAMFORD HILL WEST
19. STOKES NEWINGTON
20. VICTORIA
21. WOODBERRY DOWN

Ward results

Here are your councillors for the next four years

Brownswood ward

Soraya Adejare – Labour and Cooperative Party
Clare Potter – Labour Party

Cazenove ward

Eluzer Goldberg – Labour Party
Sam Pallis – Labour Party
Caroline Woodley – Labour Party

Clissold ward

Frank Baffour – Labour Party
Sade Etti – Labour Party
Fliss Premru – Labour Party

Dalston ward

Grace Adebayo – Labour Party
Zoë Garbett – Green Party

De Beauvoir ward

Polly Billington – Labour Party
Tom Dewey – Labour Party

Hackney Central ward

Ben Hayhurst – Labour Party
Sophie Conway – Labour Party
Sheila Suso-Runge – Labour Party

Hackney Downs ward

Alastair Binne-Lubbock – Green Party
Michael Desmond – Labour Party
Sem Moema – Labour Party

Hackney Wick ward

Chris Kennedy – Labour Party
Joseph Ogundemuren – Labour Party
Jessica Webb – Labour Party

Haggerston ward

Humaira Garasia – Labour Party
Jon Narcross – Labour Party
Midnight Ross – Labour Party

Homerton ward

Robert Chapman – Labour Party
Anna Lynch – Labour Party
Guy Nicholson – Labour Party

Hoxtown East ward

Kam Adams – Labour Party
Steve Race – Labour Party
Anyia Sizer – Labour Party

Hoxtown West ward

Yvonne Maxwell – Labour Party
Claydon McKenzie – Labour Party
Carole Williams – Labour Party

King's Park ward

Sharon Patrick – Labour Party
Ali Sadek – Labour Party
Lynne Troughton – Labour Party

Lea Bridge ward

Margaret Gordon – Labour Party
Deniz Oguzkanli – Labour Party
Ian Rathbone – Labour Party

London Fields ward

Anntoinette Bramble – Labour Party
Lee Laudat-Scott – Labour Party
M Can Ozsen – Labour Party

Shacklewell ward

Ifraah Samatar – Labour Party
Richard Lufkin – Labour Party

Springfield ward

Shaul Krautwurt –

Conservative Party

Michael Levy – Conservative Party
Simche Steinberger – Conservative Party

Stamford Hill West ward

Hershy Lissner – Conservative Party
Benzion Papier – Conservative Party

Stoke Newington ward

Mete Coban – Labour Party
Susan Fajana-Thomas – Labour Party
Gilbert Smyth – Labour Party

Victoria ward

Claudia Turbet-Delof – Labour Party
Clare Joseph – Labour Party
Penny Wrout – Labour Party

Woodberry Down ward

Caroline Selman – Labour Party
Sarah Young – Labour Party

More local news and events at:
www.facebook.com/WeLoveHackney;
 or: twitter.com/LoveHackney

KEEP UP
TO DATE

Windrush sculptor on Turner shortlist



Photos: Andy Keate / Wayne Crichlow

VERONICA Ryan OBE has been nominated for this year's Turner Prize, in recognition of her Hackney Windrush Art Commission.

Veronica's large marble and bronze sculptures of Caribbean fruits and vegetables – called 'Custard Apple, Breadfruit and Soursop' – are inspired by the artist's memories of visiting Ridley Road market with her mother as a child.

The sculptures are on permanent display next to St Augustine's Tower in Hackney Central.

The project, produced in partnership with Create, is part of the Council's

wider Windrush Engagement Programme.

The decision to commission an artist to create public artworks honouring Hackney's Windrush generation was made by a panel including residents, Windrush campaigners, artists, architects and councillors.

In the end two artists were commissioned: Veronica and Thomas J Price – whose monument is set to be unveiled outside Hackney Town Hall, on Windrush Day on 22 June.

Ahead of this, the Council is asking residents what they will do to celebrate the Windrush generation.

From baking, sharing

stories, creating awareness for the compensation scheme, making art or learning something new, everyone can get involved in celebrating the Windrush generation.

Share your idea on social media using the #HackneyForWindrush hashtag and the Council will share the best ones on the Hackney Windrush Instagram account @HackneyWindrush.

MORE INFO

For more information, visit: lovehackney.uk/windrush-generations-festival



From the top: the sculptures in Hackney Central; artist Veronica Ryan; visitors to the unveiling; plaque about the artist

News in brief

Invite to Covid-19 debate hosted by Hackney Youth Parliament

MEMBERS of Hackney Youth Parliament are inviting young people who are passionate about their borough to join them in their first ever debate. Called 'Life after Covid', the debate is set to take place in the Council Chamber at Hackney Town Hall, on 1 June, from 2pm to 4.30pm.

Hosted by young people for young people, the debate will focus on the impact of Covid-19, the vaccine, mental health, education and how the pandemic has affected the lives of younger residents. Local politicians and professionals from education, children's services and public health will be present at the event. This will be an open debate and attendees will be given the opportunity to voice their opinions and ideas. To book tickets, visit: bit.ly/hypcovid



Next stop, free dental service

A BUS that provides free dental care for homeless people in Hackney will be in the borough for two days a week. The Colgate Driving for Change bus includes a mobile dental service on board to provide essential oral care to those who need it most, as well as oral health education. The bus will be at Mare Street, E8 1EA, from 9.30am-5pm on Thursdays and Gillett Square, N16 8AZ, on Fridays.

Revamp starts on children's centre

WORK has begun to transform the Grade II listed Woodberry Down Children's Centre Early Years building, which will provide a new home for Lilliput Playgroup, a crèche, and more training facilities for adults and young people.

An extension will be built on some of the current garden site, which

will provide a new space for children under five and stay-and-play facilities.

As well as a new purpose-built crèche, improvements will also allow for more adult learning and group work, as well as consulting rooms on-site.

The centre improvements are being funded by Woodberry Down

developers, as well as some direct Council investment.

Woodberry Down Children's Centre and Lilliput Playgroup will remain open during the work, which is expected to take 18 months to complete.



Children from Lilliput Playgroup saw work on the Woodberry Down Early Year's building get underway

Photos: Sean Pollock

feature

THE Council is recommitting to action at every level of the organisation in order to become a truly anti-racist council and borough, following a seminal four-day anti-racism event it hosted earlier this month.

Having honest conversations and leaders who want to make a difference, as well as recognising the lived experiences of black and global majority residents, and institutionalising anti-racist ways of working are some of the ways this can be achieved, according to keynote speaker Dr David Weaver, President, Chair & CEO of British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy.

Dr Weaver was one of several inspirational speakers to attend the Council's anti-racism conference.

He told the audience: "Wherever there's racism we're having to fight for it to be recognised.

"Microaggressions and other forms of racism are like death by a thousand cuts – but these lived experiences aren't being recognised. We have to understand the impact racism has on people's mental health.

"Unless we understand the holistic issues around racism it will be difficult to contend with the issues here in Hackney."

Mark Carroll, Chief Executive of Hackney Council, outlined some of the work the Council is doing and will do to become anti-racist and drive change in the borough.

"Hackney Council is redefining itself as an anti-racist council," he said. "It's about institutional change and a commitment to change. Having a plan and putting it into action.

"We have to be accountable to the community. The people of Hackney expect us to understand them and

hear their voices. We have the Veronica Ryan Windrush statues. The naming of Brafia Square. The Review, Rename, Reclaim work. These are representative of whose stories are getting told.

"And this is our chance to influence – nationally, not just locally. It is a moment for Hackney to be an exemplar to the rest of the country."

The four-day event, attended by hundreds of people from the Council, and other organisations, aimed to 'unmask, repair and prevent' the hidden wounds of racial trauma on black and global

majority ethnic children and families in Hackney in order to further and critically develop anti-racist ways of working within the Council and within education settings.

The Mayor of Hackney, Philip Glanville, told the conference: "We haven't just started this journey. We are here at a key moment in history: George Floyd; Child Q; and the disproportionate impact of the pandemic [on black and global majority people].

"This is blatant racism and we have to be aware of how traumatising that can be. We have a lot to do to empower black voices at every level of the organisation. People are

looking at us, and asking: are we really going to make that change?

And we can't afford to fail."

Deputy Mayor, Cllr Anntoinette Bramble, added: "How do allies empower and educate themselves? We have to be comfortable being uncomfortable talking about race. Change won't happen if we keep skirting around the issue. Unless we tackle the ethos in every institution we will be here again.

"Child Q didn't happen in isolation or in a vacuum. It is part of a wider systemic issue. We must work to be on the right side of history."

The conference heard

from several prominent speakers, including Rosemary Campbell-Stephens MBE; Dr Shola Mos-Shogbamimu; and Jahnine Davis who talked about racism; historical trauma; topical issues and racism prevention.

Ms Campbell-Stephens, a veteran educator and anti-racism activist, said: "We have reached a critical juncture; there are times when you know you're living through a historical paradigm shift – this is one of those times.

"We need to acknowledge and tell the truth; we are not really having grown-up, adult,



Tackling racism

Delegates attended a four-day event to hear how anti-racism can be put into practice





Photos: Sean Pollock



“Microaggressions and other forms of racism are like death by a thousand cuts”

truthful conversations [about racism].

“Every child should not leave statutory education without a true understanding of who they are.”

Dozens of workshops were held throughout the week, including looking at how discrimination, stereotypes, oppression and microaggressions impact black and global

majority children and families; the impact of day-to-day racism on mental health; equalities, diversion and inclusion in schools; and the voice and influence of young people.

Mark Carroll added: “We have been talking about anti-racism for over 50 years, but on the key issues of employment, mental health, school exclusions, we haven’t

seen as much change as we expect and need.

“Young people today are having the similar experiences of racism that their parents had, and that isn’t acceptable. This week has been an opportunity to learn, reflect and for us as an organisation to commit to action.”

The conference forms part of the Council’s Anti-Racism Action Plan, which launched last year.

This sees the Council lead from the inside out by investigating how inclusive it is and how it tackles all forms of racism in the community.

Council staff, volunteers and keynote speakers at the four-day anti-racism event, which took place earlier this month. Speakers included Mark Carroll, Chief Executive of Hackney Council (top right) and Dr David Weaver (centre left)



Child Q How the Council is listening to the community

THE voices, experiences and outrage of children, parents and carers – and others affected by the impact of the Child Q report – are being heard in a series of events taking place in the community in order to understand the impact of the case and work to tackle institutional racism.

Child Q, a black teenage girl, was stripsearched at a Hackney school by police officers. A review by the Hackney and City Safeguarding Children’s Board found that racism and ‘adulthood bias’ – where black children are treated more harshly than their white peers – informed the actions by officers.

The review also made recommendations of the government, the police, the Council, the health service and schools to make changes to ensure children are protected in future – with a focus on black and global majority children.

The Mayor of Hackney, Philip Glanville, and the Council Cabinet, jointly stated: “Now is the time to take action. Now is the time for change. But to

get that right, all our plans and every aspect of our response must be informed by the lived experience of those affected by racism.

“That’s why we’re reaching out to our communities to hear them; to listen to them; and have them direct us.

“At the same time, we know many people have been traumatised or re-traumatised by events, so our work will also ensure we are giving people a restorative space to be heard, understood and begin to heal.”

Since the Child Q report was published, the Council has continued to support as well as offer practical help to Child Q and her family. It has rolled out adulthood training to schools and to relevant Council staff.

It has also written to the government demanding a change in legislation to prevent any child being stripsearched in schools. And, it has also demanded that the Met Police self-declare that institutional racism is a consistent factor in the relationship between the police and the black and global majority communities.

SINCE the review, the Council, its partners and members of the voluntary sector, have held a series of sessions with and for the community in order to formulate plans and actions. This has included:



SESSIONS with Account, the Young Black Men programme, the Young Futures Commission, and Hackney Youth Parliament – and others – to consider the police’s response to events, and how the community needs to be engaged further in shaping how the police change and respond.

AN ONLINE event for parents, carers and guardians to update them on the Child Q case and have their questions answered by senior leaders.



FORTHCOMING post-review sessions will include:



SAFE space sessions for young black girls to speak about their experiences of living and growing up in Hackney, as well as of the education system and the police.

‘THINKING Spaces’: therapeutic community sessions for healing and action.



HDS15486

The New Age Games Programme

FREE ACTIVITIES for Hackney residents aged 50+

Tuesday 3 May to Saturday 23 July 2022

(no sessions held on 2 & 3 June)

Day	Activity	Time & Venue
Monday	Chair-based activity	11.00am – 12.00pm, Frampton Park Baptist Church
	Music movers	11.15am – 12.15pm, Britannia Leisure Centre
	Yoga	12.00 noon – 1.00pm, The Glasshouse
Tuesday	Pilates	10.00am - 11.00am, online visit hackney.gov.uk/new-age-games for further details.
	Badminton	10.30am - 12.30pm, Britannia Leisure Centre
	Archery	2.15pm – 3.45pm, Queensbridge Sports & Community Centre
Wednesday	Aerobic and tone	10.00am – 11.00am, Queensbridge Sports & Community Centre
	Tennis	10.30am – 12.00noon, Clissold Park Tennis Courts (class will be held on 27 April, but no sessions will be held on 1 June and 20 July)
	Soca aerobics	11.30am – 12.30pm, Queensbridge Sports & Community Centre
	Move-ability (for people with mobility issues only)	2.00pm – 3.00pm, Britannia Leisure Centre (no session to be held on 25 May)
Thursday	Fusion-Pilates/yoga (Women only)	10.00am – 11.00am, Pembury Community Centre (no session to be held on 5 May)
	Pilates	11.30am – 12.30pm, Britannia Leisure Centre
	Indoor tennis (own tennis racquet required)	12.00noon – 1.30pm, Lee Valley Tennis Centre
	Water aerobics	12.30pm – 1.30pm, Britannia Leisure Centre (registration/pool readiness 12.30 - 12.40pm)
	Chair-based yoga	2.00pm – 3.00pm, The Salvation Army (Mare Street)
Friday	Water aerobics	9.00am - 10.00am, Clissold Leisure Centre (registration/pool readiness 9.00 - 9.10am)
	Tennis	10.30am – 12noon, Hackney Downs Park Tennis Courts (class will be held on 29 April, but no sessions will be held on 22 July)
Saturday	Gym	9.30am – 10.30am, Kings Hall Leisure Centre

For further information, please contact **Darren English** on: **020 8356 4897** or email: darren.english@hackney.gov.uk or visit: hackney.gov.uk/new-age-games

Please arrive 5 minutes before activity is due to start and make your attendance known to the instructor.

Do not enter swimming pool prior to this. Clients who arrive later than the session time, may be refused entry.

- ▶ To be eligible to attend the scheme, you must be a Hackney resident aged 50+. Every effort will be made to accommodate attendees, but places are based on first come, first served basis. Once maximum class numbers are reached no more entries will be permitted.
- ▶ New participants must complete a registration form before attending the scheme. These are available online, from the instructor or from Darren English using the contact details above.
- ▶ On arrival at a leisure centre facilitated session, please inform reception that you are here to attend New Age Games (followed by your chosen activity). Participants should follow the guidance of each venue.
- ▶ Participants are encouraged to uphold hand hygiene and social distancing at sessions. You should seek medical advice from your GP if you are in any doubt about your physical ability to take part in any events. This is reflected in our guidance.



Frampton Park Baptist Church





The New Age Games, Walking Together, Staying Steady and Fit 4 Health are all free health and physical activity programmes for the over-50s

DID YOU KNOW?

THE Council's New Age Games are helping participants to feel healthier, stronger and happier.

The sports and physical activity programme, which has been relaunched after the pandemic, includes swimming, archery, yoga and more for residents aged 50 and over.

The programme seeks to help participants increase and sustain the amount of exercise they do through friendly classes tailored to all abilities.

Classes are held at venues across Hackney – including Britannia Leisure Centre, Clissold Park, the brand new Glass House in Springfield Park, Hackney Downs Park and the Pembury Community Centre.

Yolanda Zappaterra goes to classes run by the New Ages Games on a regular basis. She says: "I love the mix of classes and feel that they're really benefiting me – as well as giving my week some structure and something to look forward to."

Fellow resident Alice Ajayi has been attending classes since 2018.

She says: "I feel great! It has strengthened my body, I don't go to the



"I feel great! It has strengthened my body, I don't go to the doctor as often and I feel 10 years' younger"

doctor as often, and I feel 10 years younger.

"I have reduced my medication. My diabetes and hypertension is under control, I have fewer

headaches. Everything is better."

Cllr Chris Kennedy, Cabinet Member for Health, Adult Social Care, Voluntary Sector and Leisure, said: "The New Age Games is a brilliant opportunity for residents to get together, have fun and get fit and, with summer approaching, there's no better time to join."

MORE INFO

The New Age Games run until 23 July (see page 6 for the up-to-date programme). For more info, call: **020 8356 4897**, email: darren.english@hackney.gov.uk or visit: hackney.gov.uk/new-age-games

New Age Games: What's on offer?

- **Aerobic and tone:** a varied aerobic workout to music using dyna bands to improve strength, flexibility and endurance
- **Archery:** a low-impact session held indoors
- **Badminton:** played using racquets to hit a shuttlecock across a net
- **Chair-based activity:** gently builds up your activity levels without

- putting strain on your arms, legs or hips. Suitable for people who have had back, knee or hip surgery, mobility problems, arthritis, osteoporosis or have very low fitness levels
- **Cycling:** learn how to ride or cycle off road; all equipment provided
- **Fusion:** a mix of Pilates, yoga and strengthening exercises

- **Gym:** How to use gym equipment correctly
- **Move-ability:** a circuit-based class designed for people with activity limitations and consisting of a warm up, cardiovascular component, light resistance exercises and a cool down
- **Music movers:** aerobic movement with freestyle group exercise and fitness routines

- **Pilates:** Strengthening mind-body exercise
- **Soca aerobics:** A fun mix of dance and aerobics
- **Tennis:** indoor and outdoor
- **Water aerobics:** Get a full-body workout and build core strength with these high-intensity routines that feature minimal demand on the joints
- **Yoga:** Strengthening mind-body exercise



Want to get healthier?

Walking together

THIS group activity provides free regular wellbeing walks around the borough. Participants can get involved in a structured walk in their local park, or discover new places within their neighbourhood. The friendly, daily walks are intended to help residents meet each other while reaping the benefits of being outdoors and active.

For more information, including the timetable and registration details, visit: hackney.gov.uk/walking; call: **0208 356 4897** or email: darren.english@hackney.gov.uk

Staying Steady

STAYING Steady provides free weekly exercise classes for people over 55 as part of a 24-week programme focused on improving their strength and balance.

Classes will help residents feel stronger and healthier, regain their confidence, and increase their physical and mental resilience. Residents can refer themselves or ask their GP for a referral.

For more details, visit: mrsindependentliving.org/staying-steady; or call: **0330 380 1013**.

Fit 4 Health

The Fit 4 Health – Exercise after Stroke/ Transient Ischaemic Attack (TIA) scheme is an established free community-based service to help people recover after a stroke. The programme is designed to help meet the long-term effects of stroke and the varied and wide-ranging exercise needs of stroke and TIA sufferers. Each programme lasts 11 weeks and sessions are taking place at Britannia Leisure Centre and Clissold Leisure Centre.

For more info, email: helen.mcginley@hackney.gov.uk; or call: **020 8356 5285/4897**. Alternatively visit: hackney.gov.uk/after-stroke-programme



2

HACKNEY is set to have a right royal knees up as residents get ready to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

An extended bank holiday from 2 to 5 June will give local communities the opportunity to mark the first British monarch to reign for 70 years.

Celebrations are set to include a spectacular Springfield Park event, street parties, estates' Big Jubilee Lunches, and a beacon lighting ceremony.

The Mayor of Hackney, Philip Glanville, said: "I am delighted that so many of our local communities are coming together to mark what is an unprecedented anniversary.

"We pride ourselves on being an inclusive borough and this is just further evidence of the community spirit we have in Hackney. These events are about bringing people together and this year they have the added attraction of celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

"I hope everyone taking part in one of the Big Jubilee Lunches or any of the other local or national events marking this historic occasion enjoys themselves and helps mark Her Majesty's 70 years of service in style."



Photo: Hackney Archives

Join in Platinum Jubilee celebrations across the borough



5



4



3

Springfield Park Celebration

THE Springfield Park celebration, which is taking place on 2 June, from 10am to 5pm, has a free, jam-packed programme of activities for all ages.

Highlights include live music from the Grand Union Orchestra on the bandstand, tennis taster sessions, live poetry writing, family carnival fun, nature activities, Hackney Play Association sessions, rowing trials, woodworking demonstrations, a climbing wall and a

bungee trampoline.

Lubavitch Children's Centre will also be at Springfield Park, with an inflatable Mount Sinai and family workshops.

Some activities – including fabric printing, guided history walks, a tree tour with Tree Musketeers and paddlesports and narrowboat trips from the Leaside Trust – should be booked in advance due to limited numbers.

The Springfield Park celebration is also a chance for residents to

Springfield Park Celebration

Thursday 2 June
10am - 5pm

Join us on the bank holiday at Springfield Park to celebrate the completed restoration project and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.



Dance, play, learn, craft, celebrate! Hackney

visit the newly renovated Springfield House and brand new Glass House.

For more info, or to register for a free ticket, visit: hackney.gov.uk/springfield-park

Street parties and Big Lunches

OVER the course of the bank holiday, 22 Hackney streets are set to be closed and turned into a sea of red white and blue as residents get out their bunting and share food and drinks with their neighbours.

Over 30 Big Jubilee Lunch events are also being supported by the Council, after it received a record number of applications for Big Lunch funding of up to £500 this year.

The events, which will all be inclusive and accessible, will include barbecues,

picnics and celebratory sit-down meals. At all events residents are being encouraged to bring a dish to share if they can.

Entertainment ranges from a fun dance workshop at the intergenerational event at Trowbridge Seniors Club, to live music and bouncy castles at several estates, and even a dog show at Albion Drive.

The Big Lunches on the estates are being organised by residents, Tenant Management Organisations, and

Tenant and Resident Associations (TRAs).

Sharon Gammack, chair of the Gascoyne 2 TRA, said: "We are aware that many of our neighbours have become socially isolated during the last two years because of the Covid-19 pandemic, so we



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee four-day holiday weekend will take place from 2 to 5 June



Hackney Jubilee street parties
images, July 1977 (all RA Gibson,
held at Hackney Archives)



1. The Queen meeting residents on New Kingshold Estate in 1998 (2006/17); 2, 9, 10, & 13. Participants in a Silver Jubilee fancy dress competition, 1977; 3. Wenlock Barn holding a lunch; 4. The Queen meeting residents in 1977; 5. Lea Rowing Club at Springfield Park; 7. The brand new Glass House at Springfield Park; 8. Family carnival celebrations, by Taru Arts; 11. Beacons will be lit across Britain for the Queen, like this beacon lit on top of Hackney Empire, for the Queen's 90th birthday, in 2016; 12. The Queen's motorcade in Hackney, 1977; 14. A Silver Jubilee street party in Hackney, 1977; 15. Newly renovated Springfield House; 16. Hackney Town Hall ready for the Queens' visit, 1977

Photos: Sean Pollock / Gary Manhine / Hackney Archives/ RA Gibson

National celebrations

- **2 June (10am-12.25pm):** Trooping the Colour, with more than 1,400 parading soldiers, 200 horses and 400 musicians marching down the Mall from Buckingham Palace to Horse Guards Parade, followed by an RAF fly-past watched by the Queen from the Buckingham Palace balcony; **Beacons** will be lit across the UK, the Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories to mark the event, as well as each of the capital cities of the Commonwealth countries;
- **3 June:** Service of Thanksgiving for the Queen's reign at St Paul's Cathedral;
- **4 June:** The Queen and members of the Royal family will attend the Derby at Epsom, before a live concert (the 'Platinum Party at the Palace'), which will be staged and broadcast by the BBC;
- **5 June:** People will be encouraged to arrange street parties to join The Big Jubilee Lunch. The final event of the weekend will also see more than 5,000 people from across the UK and the Commonwealth parading through Buckingham Palace and the surrounding streets as part of a Platinum Jubilee Pageant;
- **Platinum Jubilee medals:** will be awarded to people who work in public service, including representatives of the Armed Forces, the emergency services and the prison services.

Beacon lighting ceremony

HACKNEY will also take part in a mass beacon-lighting ceremony to mark the Platinum Jubilee, on 2 June.

More than 1,500 beacons will be lit throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories, and one in each of the capital cities of Commonwealth countries.

As the sun sets, shortly after 9pm, the Speaker of Hackney, along with Lieutenant Colonel Morris, Representative Deputy

Lieutenant for the London Borough of Hackney, will light a beacon on top of Hackney Empire.

This will be preceded by a small reception in the Speaker's Parlour, attended by civic dignitaries and community representatives – as well as the winners of the Speaker's Platinum Jubilee Art Competition.



think this party will be a very important step towards rekindling community spirit on our estate.

"We will offer a friendly and informal setting where our guests can enjoy hot and cold food and drink. We will have a DJ and karaoke machine for dancing and singing and will arrange party games and crafts to keep everyone entertained."

Nerine O'Connor, from Holly Street Luncheon and Social Club, added: "We will give the local community and our

members the best Jubilee celebration to put a smile on their faces and our Queen. Our members can remember the Queen's Coronation – and the Jubilee is a milestone worth celebrating!"

Eboni Ferguson, from the Nightingale Partnership Resident Association, said: "We want to celebrate the diversity within the United Kingdom by having a lunch with dishes from around the globe to also represent where the residents are from."

Share your jubilee memories!

TO MARK the Platinum Jubilee, Hackney Today, together with Hackney Archives, are collating memories from residents – and we need your help. Have you ever met the Queen? Were you at a coronation street party in 1953? Perhaps your school

had a dress up day for the Silver Jubilee in 1977? Did your local community centre host an afternoon tea for the Golden Jubilee in 2002 or the Diamond Jubilee in 2012? However you celebrated these historic milestones, we'd love you to share your memories with us at: **hackneypublications@hackney.gov.uk**



mulberry

Academy Shoreditch

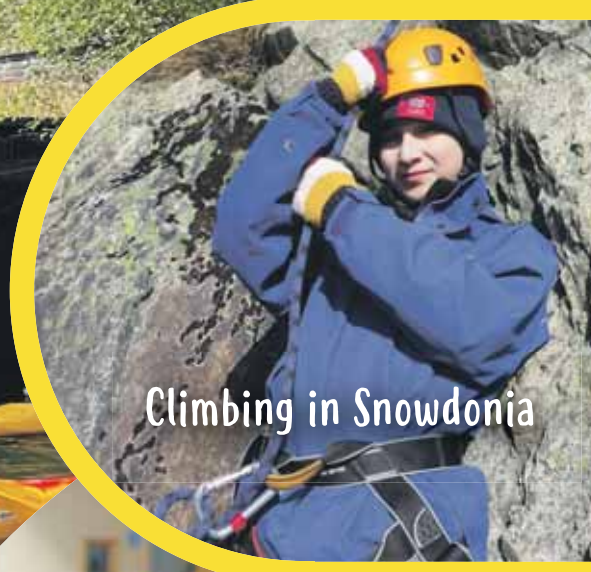
We offer academic excellence in a fun and exciting school



House Tournaments



Kayaking on the Grand Union Canal



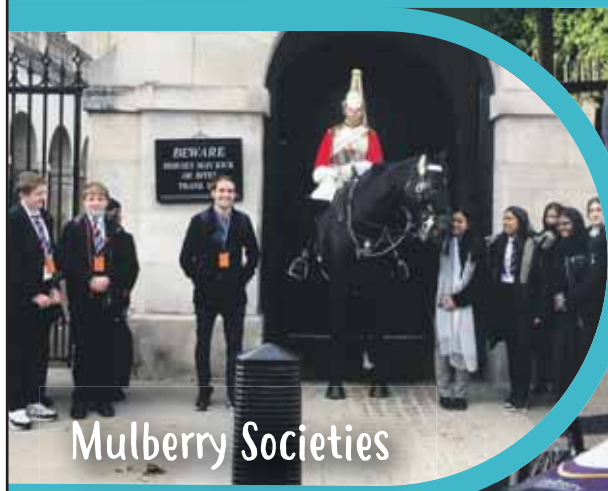
Climbing in Snowdonia

Amazing enrichment opportunities

Our students enjoy memorable cultural experiences, linked to a rich, vibrant and creative curriculum that extends their learning beyond the classroom.



Music tuition



Mulberry Societies



Racing at Goodwood

Sixth Form enrichment

Sixth Form students participate in workshops, visits to universities, lectures, trips and arts events as well as a wide range of activities during their Wednesday afternoon enrichment sessions.

For more information about our amazing school, follow the QR code or visit
www.mulberryacademyshoreditch.org

📍 Mulberry Academy Shoreditch . Gosset Street . London E2 6NW

☎ 020 7920 7900 ✉ info@mulberryacademyshoreditch.org

📱 @MulberryAS | 📺 Mulberry Academy Shoreditch

Part of the
Mulberry
 Schools Trust

SCAN ME



More local news and events at:
www.facebook.com/WeLoveHackney;
 or: twitter.com/LoveHackney

KEEP UP
TO DATE



NOMINATIONS are now open for the seventh annual Mayor's Civic Awards, which celebrate Hackney's unsung heroes who have made a difference in their communities over the years.

Residents are encouraged to nominate an individual – or organisation – who has made a positive and selfless contribution to the lives of Hackney residents.

This could be a carer, teacher, volunteer, youth worker, charity, business or anyone else who has made a positive impact in the borough. Awards will be given to three individuals and three organisations.

The Mayor of Hackney, Philip Glanville, said: "Over the last few years we have had to postpone or largely celebrate the Civic Awards remotely because of the pandemic. This year I am really looking forward to acknowledging and meeting all of Hackney's unsung heroes in person."

"I had the pleasure of visiting two of the winners from last year recently and it was incredible to see first-hand the work they are doing. Round Chapel Old School Rooms and Alfred Mugabo from Impact Sport FC represent the best of us and it was an honour to finally hand them their awards this week."

"Hackney is such a diverse, welcoming and inclusive place and it's really important that we encourage the individuals and organisations who uphold that on a daily basis."

"I would strongly encourage everyone to nominate either an organisation or individual who have always given back to their communities to help us celebrate the very best of our borough."

Last year, over 200 nominations were sent in for the sixth Mayor's Civic Awards, which focused on celebrating the incredible community response to the pandemic.

Hackney's unsung heroes



The Mayor's Civic Awards celebrates people who have made a difference to their communities

Photos: Sean Pollock



“Me and my team love the work we do, putting smiles on young people's faces through sport”

Impact Football Academy's head coach Alfred Mugabo; chef and founder of community food initiative Poot It In Yer Bag, Elaine Chalmers; and Michelle Dornelly, who founded local charity Children with Voices, were all honoured in the award's individual category.

Alfred Mugabo said: "The best way of taking care of tomorrow, is taking care of the youth today."

"And that's something me and my team strive for every minute we are on this earth."

"Me and my team love the work we do, putting

smiles on young people's faces through sport. At Impact we aren't a team, we are a family."

The winners of the organisation category were Bangla Housing Association, which provided vital public health information to Hackney's Bangladeshi community during the pandemic; E5 Baby Bank, an organisation set up to provide parents in need with clothes, nappies, toys and other essentials; and Round Chapel Old Rooms, which gave food and mental wellbeing support to vulnerable and

isolated residents.

Winners accepted their awards via video link.

Nominees for the Mayor's Civic Awards can be of any age, however if you are nominating someone who is under 18, make sure you have a parent's or guardian's permission to do so.

Nominations close on 1 July and will be considered by a panel of judges drawn from across Hackney. Winners will be announced in the autumn.

MORE INFO

To nominate, visit: bit.ly/mayors-civic-awards-22 If you require a paper application form with a freepost envelope, email: press@hackney.gov.uk; or call: 020 8356 3736

Last year's individual and community award winners: 1-5. Mayor Glanville presented Impact Football Academy head coach Alfred Mugabo with his award; 6. Bangla Covid-19 Advice Project; 7. Volunteers and staff from the Round Chapel Old School Rooms

Jubilee Bank Holiday

rubbish and recycling collections

- Thursday and Friday collections will take place two days later than normal due to the Jubilee bank holiday.
- Monday to Wednesday collections that week will remain unchanged.
- Please move your bins and green sacks to the edge of your property by 6am on your collection day.

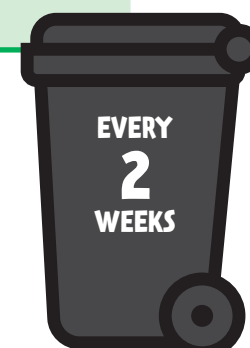


Usual collection day	Revised collection day
Monday 30 May	Monday 30 May
Tuesday 31 May	Tuesday 31 May
Wednesday 1 June	Wednesday 1 June
Thursday 2 June	Saturday 4 June
Friday 3 June	Sunday 5 June

Waste is now collected every two weeks.
To find out your collection date please go online



Find out more: hackney.gov.uk/rubbish



For the latest news on green issues, events, opportunities and consultations, sign up to the Greener Hackney e-newsletter: hackney.gov.uk/newsletters

greenmatters

Splashin' stuff!

Clissold Park splash pad set for summer launch

A NEW children's water play area is set to be completed at Clissold Park this summer, as part of the Council's commitment to expand facilities in parks and improve play opportunities for children and families.

Located in the old bowling green, the area – known as a splash pad – will feature brightly coloured water fountains and sprays, and will provide opportunities for water play (see artist's impression, main image).

The bowling pavilion will house new and accessible toilets and a cafe kiosk, to ensure the space is welcoming and inclusive.

The new splash pad is part of a significant programme of investment in Hackney's parks and green spaces, which the Council has prioritised – despite 40 per cent funding cuts since 2010 – because

of the immeasurable benefits to health and wellbeing that high quality green spaces can bring.

It replaces the old paddling pool in Clissold Park, after an independent health and safety review found that it needed major work that rendered it beyond economical repair.

A consultation was carried out on its replacement in 2020, with 73 per cent of respondents saying they liked or loved the design of the new splash pad.

Mayor of Hackney, Philip Glanville, said: "The new splash pad is part of a programme of investment in our award-winning parks – with new facilities

Photos: Sean Pollock



Artist's impression of Clissold Park Splash Pad; the Mayor and councillors visited Clissold Park to see how the construction of the splash pad is developing

at Abney Park Cemetery, Fairchild's Garden and Shoreditch Park – which we hope will encourage more people to visit our parks, with the associated physical and mental health benefits this brings."

Cllr Caroline Woodley, Cabinet Member for Parks and Play, added: "The new

splash pad will bring joy to local children in the warmer months, with lots of fun features including water jets.

The new splash pad sits alongside a programme of newly improved playgrounds and significant upcoming investment in other parks in the borough.

This includes: £5m to restore Abney Park Cemetery; £130,000 on Daubeney Fields; £500,000 to refurbish Fairchild's Garden; and £2m for upgrading Shoreditch Park.

“The new splash pad will bring joy to local children in the warmer months”

News in brief



One of the new kiosks will be at the Clissold Park Pump House (top); the other on the edge of Haggerston Park (bottom)

Apply for tender to run new kiosks in Hackney's parks

LOCAL traders and businesses are being invited to run new kiosks in Clissold Park and Haggerston Park, as the Council seeks to provide more food and drink spots for local residents in its parks and green spaces.

The new kiosks – at the Clissold Park Pump House, and in a brick building at the edge of Haggerston Park – will also help to generate income that will be reinvested into the upkeep of the borough's award-winning parks and green spaces.

The Council is keen to encourage local businesses to apply to run the space. Operators will be selected on the basis of their ability to offer a combination of quality, value for money, affordability for residents, an all-year service and reducing carbon emissions – such as Fairtrade products, no single-use plastics and encouraging visitors to bring refillable cups.

In Haggerston Park, situated in the south west corner of Hackney, the proposed kiosk location is a brick building to the west of the park. In Clissold Park, the proposed kiosk will be located in the old pump house, a period building in the west of the park.

This opportunity will be open to food and non-food businesses. Both spaces are approximately 20sqm in size. To apply for the tender, visit: hackney.gov.uk/tenders

Got a great idea for a new parklet? Let us know!

LOCAL communities and businesses are being encouraged by the Council to come up with their own creative and innovative ideas for new 'pocket parks' or parklets, building on the 10 that currently exist in the borough.

Parklets are typically installed within on-street parking bays, reclaiming the space and making it greener, more liveable and pleasant for the benefit of the local community and helping to reduce the dominance of cars

on the roads.

Cllr Mete Coban, Cabinet Member for Energy, Waste, Transport and Public Realm, said: "From seeing parklets dotted around the borough, I know the joy they can bring to people.

"The existing parklets brighten up the streets and make you smile. Be

creative, test your ideas with neighbours and send us your proposals.

"We'll be excited to read them."

To view a map of the existing sites, read the guidance or apply for a parklet for a local community or business, visit: hackney.gov.uk/parklets





1



Photos: Stanley Kaye

Operation Mincemeat

A plaque at Hackney Mortuary is a fitting tribute to one of the strangest true tales of World War Two

1. Hackney mortuary, beside St John-at-Hackney Church; 2. Deputy Lord Lt (DLL) of Hackney Stephen Howlett; Jerry Klinger, donor of the plaque and also Chair of the Jewish American Society for Historic Preservation; Colonel Cullinane, USA Embassy Military attache; Martin Sugarman, Chair of Hackney and Stamford Hill Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women (AJEX); Ukrainian guest; Michael Desmond, Speaker of Hackney, Mrs Howlett; 3. Flight Lt. Cholmondeley and Cmdr Montagu on 17 April 1943, transporting the body to Scotland; 4. Unveiling the plaque; 5. Col Cullinane, The Speaker of Hackney, RAF cadets and representatives at the unveiling; 6. The plaque

A SMALL but important role played by the borough in the Second World War has been marked by a plaque outside the Hackney mortuary.

The plaque was officially unveiled on 24 April at the Hackney mortuary, which is situated beside St John-at-Hackney Church.

In spring 1943, the British and American allies began planning to invade Sicily, the first liberation of part of mainland Europe from Nazi occupation. Heavy Allied casualties were expected.

A Jewish barrister, Commander Ewen Montagu, OBE, and Flight Lt Charles Cholmondeley, MBE, RAF, both working in Secret Intelligence, were tasked to plan a deception.

They used the dead body of Glyndwr Michael – an illiterate Welsh homeless

man, whose body was found in London's King's Cross after he ingested rat poison. They dressed him as a fake Royal Marine officer called Major William Martin.

The body of Glyndwr had fake documents planted on him, signed by senior Allied generals, saying it had been decided to invade Europe via Greece, and not Sicily.

The body was prepared and dressed at Hackney mortuary and taken to a secret submarine base in Scotland.

Glyndwr's body was then shipped to near the coast of Spain and floated into the sea at a spot where it was known that the current would wash it ashore near the coastal town of Huelva.

Here it was discovered, as hoped, and the local Spanish authorities, as sympathisers with the

Use your skills to foster

If you have experience caring for, or working with young people, foster for Hackney.

For more information



Call: 0800 0730 418

Visit: hackney.gov.uk/fostering

Email: fostering.recruitment@hackney.gov.uk

 **Hackney**



Nazis, ensured the local Nazi spies saw the contents; they then photographed the letters, and sent the documents to Berlin.

Thus it was that many German soldiers, tanks, aircraft and much artillery were sent to Greece from both Italy and Sicily, resulting in fewer casualties when the Allies ultimately landed in Sicily on 9 July 1943.

This fascinating story was recounted in Cmdr Montagu's 1953 book, 'The Man Who Never Was' and a film (1956) was later made with Cmdr Montagu playing a small cameo role in one scene.

A more up-to-date version of the film, called 'Operation Mincemeat',



Unveiling the Hackney plaque

THE Hackney plaque was financed by Jerry Klinger of the Jewish American Society for Historic Preservation, with the initiative of Martin Sugarman and the Hackney and Stamford Hill Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women (AJEX) and assisted by the Council and St John-at-Hackney Church.

It was officially unveiled by Cmdr Montagu's two great

nieces – Rachel and Sarah – the plaque's sponsor Jerry Klinger – the American Military Attache, Colonel Cullinane, the Mayor, the Speaker and councillors.

Martin, AJEX archivist, said: "AJEX want to make it clear to people that there was a Jewish contribution to the war effort.

"We want to push the diversity of those who helped defeat fascism in the Second World War."

was released this year, with Colin Firth playing Cmdr Montagu.

Glyndwr's body, after it was picked up by a fisherman off the Spanish Atlantic coast, was buried with full military honours in Spain, with the tombstone naming William Martin, the false alias used on the identification documents planted on the body by British intelligence.

In 1998 the British Government revealed the body's true identity.

The gravestone now reads, "Glyndwr Michael; Served as Major William Martin, RM."

MORE INFO

To visit the plaque, head to the mortuary adjacent to the church, in St John's Churchyard, Lower Clapton Road, E8 1HP.

News in brief

Free studio and retail space for creatives at Hackney Bridge

YOUNG creatives, aged between 18 and 25 years old, are being invited to apply for their own creative maker studio and retail space for one year, thanks to independent retail and entertainment space, Hackney Bridge.

The selected applicant will be given 12 months to use the space as their creative base for free. The artist will also need to show their commitment to and involvement in the local community.

Hackney Bridge would like to hear ideas about how the artist intends to collaborate with or engage local community groups. The deadline for applications is 30 May. To apply, visit: hackneybridge.org/free-space-for-local-young-creative



Apply for a place on the Here East scholarship programme

HERE East, located in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, is offering Hackney residents a scholarship for an undergraduate programme at one of the award-winning universities situated on the campus, Staffordshire University London or LMA London.

The Here East Scholarship Programme offers full tuition fees, a top-up to your maintenance loan worth £2,700 per year, support facilitating work placements relevant to your course within the Here East business community, and opportunities for mentoring and company insights during the period of your degree.

The scheme particularly encourages and welcomes applications from, but is not limited to:

- those who are first in their family to go to university;
- those who see university as a prohibitive cost;
- care leavers and caregivers.

To apply for the scholarship, you must be living in Hackney and have lived in the borough for at least three years, and you must be eligible for Student Finance.

Applications close on 30 June. For more info, or to apply, visit: thescholarshipclub.org.uk/here-east-scholarship

Volunteer to help children read

ENTHUSIASTIC readers are wanted to volunteer at Hackney primary schools to help children become better readers. The charity Coram Beanstalk recruits, trains and supports volunteers to work with primary aged children to help them find a love of reading. Volunteers work one-to-one with children who would benefit from dedicated time with an adult who can help them with their reading and communication skills. Volunteers are needed to commit to a Hackney primary school two afternoons a week.

For more info, or to apply, visit: beanstalkcharity.org.uk

Dame Laura opens Olympic exhibition

DAME Laura Kenny has officially opened an exhibition at Lee Valley VeloPark, which showcases London's 2012 Olympic and Paralympic legacy.

The six-time Olympic medal-winning cyclist was joined by Paralympians Neil and Lora Fachie MBE and Hackney schoolchildren from Mossbourne Riverside Academy, who were born in the London Olympic year, 2012.

The exhibition gives visitors the chance to see the medals and torches, learn about the Paralympic story and understand the transformation of Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park since the Games.

Dame Laura said: "London 2012 was a life-changing experience

for me and it's amazing to be back at Lee Valley VeloPark.

"This exhibition is about bringing back those wonderful memories. Crossing the finish line changed my life in a way I could never have imagined."

For more info, or to go the free exhibition, visit: visitleevalley.org.uk

Dame Laura Kenny with pupils from Mossbourne Riverside Academy at the Olympic exhibition at Lee Valley VeloPark



Photos: Steve Bainbridge Photography



London Square Open Gardens Weekend

11 June, various times

LONDON Square Open Gardens will unlock over 100 secret and hidden green gems across the capital, including five in Hackney. Visit the Castle Garden, N4; Clissold Community Garden, N16; Core Landscapes community roof garden and plant nursery, E1; The Growing Kitchen, N1; and St Mary's Secret Garden, E2. A wide range of events including family activities, health and wellbeing events and produce and craft stalls will be held all weekend. You can also take a guided walk or a cycle tour of the gardens. Weekend ticket: £20; under 12s free.

londongardenstrust.org/whatson/log2022

PREVIEW



1. Core Landscapes community roof garden; 2. The Castle Garden; 3. Clissold Community Garden; 4. St Mary's Secret Garden; 5. The Growing Kitchen

EVENTS

Submit your events at: bit.ly/HackneyEventForm

CARNIVAL DANCE PROJECT

Thursdays, 7-8pm

The carnival dance team has structured a dance and activities programme for up to 40 people. The project trains participants through the year, improving stamina, confidence and performance skills, while introducing new cultural dance styles mixed with traditional dances. 10+. £60 membership, which includes costumes and travel to events. Colvestone Primary School, Colvestone Crescent, E8 2LG. **Info:** bit.ly/dimensions-carnival

MARCUS COPE, SILVER LININGS

Until 11 June, Wed-Sat, 12noon-6pm

Presenting a series of paintings all produced in the last year, Silver Linings examines the unreliability of memory and how personal histories are recollected or recorded. Free. PEER, 99-77 Hoxton Street, N1 6QL. **Info:** peeruk.org/marcus-cope

ONE SONG WORKSHOPS

16 May & 28 May, 10.30am-12noon

The One Song project, which is supported by the Shoreditch and Hoxton Art Fund, will

focus on women who have moved to the area. They will be given an opportunity to share songs from their place of origin for a series of short videos to be installed at the Museum of the Home later this year. All ages. Free. 16 May at Shoreditch Library, 80 Hoxton St, N1 6LP; and 28 May at Museum of the Home, 136 Kingsland Road, E2 8EA. **Info:** kadirkarababa@live.co.uk

SHOREDITCH & HOXTON COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA OPEN WORKSHOPS

17 & 24 May, 6.30-8.30pm

Do you have an instrument lying around at home? Dig it out and bring it to Shoreditch Town Hall's open workshops with the potential of performing at Shoreditch Town Hall on 29 May. 18+. Free. Shoreditch Town Hall, 380 Old Street, EC1V 9LT. **Info:** bit.ly/ShoreditchHoxton_SignUp

PUNK ROCK / ON THE SHORE OF THE WIDE WORLD

17-21 May & 24-28 May, 7pm

Two innovative shows performed by Court Theatre Training Company's graduating degree students for a limited run. 14+. £12.50. The

Courtyard Theatre, Bowling Green Walk, 40 Pitfield Street, N1 6EU. **Info:** thecourtyard.org.uk/whatson

JUNK KOUTURE

19 May, 7.30pm

The final for the world's largest sustainable youth fashion programme, Junk Kouture, is coming to Hackney Empire. Judged by Laura Whitmore, Mehreen Baig and Fabio Piras, with live music from Wes Nelson and Ryan Mack, see the amazing and ingenious recycled outfits produced by the students. £20. Hackney Empire, 291 Mare Street, E8 1EJ. **Info:** Hackneyempire.co.uk



NEW SURREALISM

19 May-5 June, Wed-Fri, 10-5pm; Sat, 10am-6pm; Sun, 10am-5pm

Exhibition showcasing new artists Stefano Ronchi (pictured), Engim, Ed Hicks and Perspicere, who explore the bizarre and unsettling dream-like themes of the famous and influential cultural movement. Free. 529 Kingsland Road, E8 4AR. **Info:** hello@bsmt.co.uk

CHRISTIAN LÖFFLER

20 May, 7-11pm

Christian Löffler returns to London to play the newly restored Hackney Church alongside live string quartet, The Detect Ensemble. His new project sees him rework some of the world's greatest classical composers, including Beethoven, Chopin and Bach into his own soundscapes. 14+. £31.75. Hackney Church, Lower Clapton Road, E5 0PD. **Info:** saint.church/whatson

TWERKSHOP LDN

20 May, 7-8.30pm

A fun and new dance fitness experience for ladies aged 18+. Build confidence and get fit with good music and good people. 18+. £5.98. Stoke Newington School, Clissold Road, N16 9EX. **Info:** bit.ly/TwerkShopLDN

PHASES

21, 26, 28 May, 7.30-8.30pm

Arts and design practice Kai Lab presents an exhibition of sonic, electronic and mechanical artworks that examine group behaviours and cyclical systems. All ages. £10. Espacio Gallery, 159 Bethnal Green Road, London, E2 7DG. **Info:** kailaboratory.com

SCARED TO DANCE

21 May, 11pm-3am

Guest DJs Tigercats will be playing records at the club off

the back of the release of their New Works EP, out now on Fika Recordings. Also playing post-punk, indiepop, new wave and art rock from the likes of Talking Heads, Joy Division, Wet Leg, The Cure, Dry Cleaning, David Bowie, Cate Le Bon, Gang of Four and Blondie. 18+. £7. The Shacklewell Arms, 71 Shacklewell Lane, E8 2EB. **Info:** scaredtodance.co.uk

HACKNEY FLEA MARKET

21 May, 11am-5pm

Rummage through a selection of salvaged treasures from over 30 handpicked vintage traders. Free. Abney Public Hall, 73A Stoke Newington Church St, N16 0AS. **Info:** eventbrite.co.uk/o/hackney-flea-market-4527233341

CERNAMIC OPEN STUDIO

21 May, 11am-5pm

Come to Cernamic's Open Studio and see one of London's creative ceramic studios, in support of Woodgreen pet charity. There will be live demos, wheel throwing, ceramics for sale and refreshments. Free. Cernamic Studio, 36A Windus Road, N16 6UP. **Info:** cernamic.com

HACKNEY MOVES FESTIVAL: HACKNEY HALF & THE HACKNEY 5K

21-22 May, various times

Cheer on runners taking part in Hackney's half marathon and experience the electric atmosphere of the Hackney Half. The route takes runners down Mare Street, past Hackney Empire and the Town Hall, through Broadway Market, down Victoria Park Road to finish at Hackney Marshes. Hackney Half's diverse lineup of musicians will keep spectators and runners entertained along the route. Free to watch. **Info:** run.limelightsports.club/event/hackney-moves-2022/hackney-half



EMILE SANDÉ

22 May, 7-10.30pm

British singer-songwriter Emeli Sandé will play songs from her forthcoming album 'Let's Say For Instance', which was released on 6 May. The album marks a new era of Emeli's expansive artistry. 16+. £39.50. Earth, 11-17 Stoke Newington Road, Dalston, N16 8BH. **Info:** earthhackney.co.uk/events

what's on

PREVIEW



Rainer 1-18 June, 8pm

RAINER is a solitary bicycle delivery rider, whizzing across London delivering food to whoever will summon her.

From luxury flats to leafy suburbs, she loves to create stories in her head, re-imagining London as the backdrop to one of her

favourite Sci-fi films or Martin Scorsese's classic 70s film 'Taxi Driver'. She loves her life. Until her one-time lover

disappears and reality starts to slip. 14+. £25. Arcola Outside, Ashwin St, E8 3DL. arcolatheatre.com

HACKNEY PROMS: LONDON AFROBEAT COLLECTIVE

22 May, 3pm

Celebrate the glory of live music and dance, and revel in the vibrant sounds of the London Afrobeat Collective. All ages. £14, £7 for under 12s, free for under-5s. Shoreditch Town Hall, 380 Old Street, EC1V 9LT. **Info:** shoreditchtownhall.com/whats-on/london-afrobeat-collective

HACKNEY WICK TOWN HALL

23 May, 5-7.30pm

Talk about what matters in Hackney Wick. It's not run by any party or business, but by and for local people. Have thoughts about the changing area? Got an idea for an event you want to test out? Keen to get the area greener? Bring it to the Town Hall and chat it out. All ages. Free. Trowbridge Senior Citizens Club, 15 Lavington Close, E9 5HF. **Info:** wickaward.co.uk/events

JURASSIC LIVE

30-31 May, 11am / 3pm / 7.30pm

Go on an adventure through the Jurassic zoo on the hunt for a missing dinosaur. Along the way you'll meet and learn about dinosaurs from the Cretaceous and Jurassic eras

including the stegosaurus, apatosaurus, velociraptor, triceratops and even the mighty T-Rex. Age 2+, free for under-ones. £13-20. Hackney Empire, 291 Mare Street, E8 1EJ. **Info:** Hackneyempire.co.uk

BACK TO NATURE

31 May-2 June, 10am-3pm

Join the Museum of the Home for their half-term activities. Create a communal garden artwork where everyone connects with nature; become part of nature in an interactive performance; and follow a gardens trail exploring different types of gardens and what they can do. All ages. Free. 136 Kingsland Road, E2 8EA. **Info:** museumofthehome.org.uk

BRING YOUR BABY PUB QUIZ

8 & 13 June, 12noon-2.30pm

Head to the People's Park Tavern, E9, every second Wednesday of the month (next, 8 June) or go to the White Hart, N16, every second Monday of the month (next, 13 June) for a 'bring your

baby' pub quiz. Prizes include items such as Prosecco, wine, Hotel Chocolat boxes and beauty boxes. All ages, £10. The People's Park Tavern, 360 Victoria Park Road, E9 7BT and The White Hart, 69 Stoke Newington High Street N16 8EL. **Info:** bringyourbaby.org/book-a-quiz

THE AYAHS AND AMAHS HOME, HACKNEY

16 June, 5.55-7.45pm

Join Hackney Museum for a talk exploring the lives of Ayahs and Amahs, many of whom lived at the Ayahs and Amahs Home on King Edward's Road, Hackney (1900-1941), awaiting return journeys to Asia. The event is also an opportunity to mark the initial home in Hackney receiving a Blue Plaque from English Heritage in June. Free, register. Hackney Museum, 1 Reading Lane,

E8 1GQ. **Info:** bit.ly/ayah-hackney-museum

TOUR DE MOON

16 June, 2-8pm

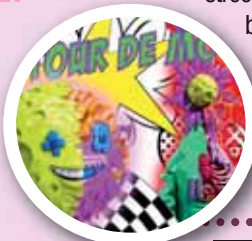
Bringing together talks, cinema, music, and games all under one theme. Tour de Moon celebrates the relationship between Earth and the Moon with several thought-provoking and original experiences, with a special focus on nightlife, creativity and culture. There will be a street party as part of the big finale on Rushmore

Road. Free. Pedro Youth Club, 175 Rushmore Road, Lower Clapton, E5 0HD. **Info:** tourdemoon.com

YOGA IN THE TOWER

19 June, 6-8pm

Hatha yoga and yoga nidra workshop in St Augustine's Tower. In the sanctuary of an ancient church tower, discover yogic wisdom for releasing tension, encouraging relaxation and receiving inspiration at this intimate four-participant event. All profits to Hackney Historic Buildings Trust. 18+. Concessions available. £35. St Augustine's Tower, E8 1HT. **Info:** yogawithrich.co.uk/events-and-retreats



Libraries' Jubilee & Empathy Day events

JUBILEE BUNTING WITH ART HOPPERS

28 May, 2-3.30pm

Draw and decorate a triangle of fabric for Art Hoppers community bunting. What does the Platinum Jubilee mean to you? How would you mark 70 years of Queen Elizabeth II? There will be craft materials on-hand and ribbon to hang your designs. Homerton Library. Age 5+.

PLATINUM CROWNS WITH ART HOPPERS

1 June, 2-3.30pm

Design and decorate a platinum crown in celebration of Queen Elizabeth's 70 year reign. Get creative with their crafty supply of pens and gems. Prepare a speech for your admiring public and prepare to party like a queen! Dalston CLR James Library. Age 5+.

DOUBLE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

1 June, 4-5pm

Celebrate the Queen's Jubilee and Homerton Library's 48th Birthday! Create celebration bunting and follow with lashings of lemonade (or juice) and biscuits. Homerton Library. Age 6+.

AFTERNOON TEA

1 June, 4-5pm

Afternoon tea to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and Homerton Library's 48th birthday. Tea and cakes for adults. Hackney Central Library. Age 6+.

STORY TIME WITH PAUL RUBINSTEIN

2 June, all day

Visit the Hackney libraries corner at Springfield Park

and take away some free resources and books to read over the long bank holiday weekend! Springfield Park. All ages.

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

4 June, 10am-4pm

Colouring sheets, mazes and crown making for all the family. All Hackney Libraries. All ages.

THE READING Agency and BBC Arts have announced they are delivering the Big Jubilee Read, a reading for pleasure campaign celebrating great reads from across the Commonwealth to coincide with Her Majesty The Queen's

Jubilee. An expert panel of librarians, booksellers and literature specialists has chosen 70 titles from a 'readers' choice' longlist with 10 books for each

decade of The Queen's reign. The list offers books produced by authors from Commonwealth countries over the last 70 years to engage all readers in the discovery and celebration of great books. Visit: readinggroups.org/big-jubilee-read

EMPATHY DAY STORYTELLING SESSION WITH PAUL RUBINSTEIN

9 June, 4pm

Sing along and share stories with your family and friends. Stamford Hill Library. All ages.

EMPATHY DAY COMIC STRIPS

11 June, 2-3pm

A comic strip workshop for families to encourage children to create their own Empathy Superhero and write and draw a comic strip about them and share them with siblings, friends and family. Shoreditch Library. Age 8+.



For more information, visit: hackney.gov.uk/libraries

what's on

PREVIEW

Stoke Newington Early Music Festival

24 June-9 July, various times

STOKE Newington Early Music Festival traces the migrations of composers across Europe from the late Renaissance to the age of steam. A German in Venice, Italian Composers in Ireland, and a Swedish virtuoso in London reveal the creative responses of composers in foreign lands. The festival kicks off on 24 June at St Matthias Church with 'Stokey Baroque' – a tribute concert to former festival director Philip Yeeles. Other highlights include 'Fretwork' (1 July) and medieval and traditional lullabies, 'The Telling' (8 July). The festival takes place across different venues in Stoke Newington. Book events in advance.

stokenewingtonearlymusic.org.uk



Flaugissimo Duo present A Nightingale in the Garden (main); Italian composers in Ireland, Irlandiani, are set to perform at the West Reservoir Centre (inset)



Submit your events at: bit.ly/HackneyEventForm

HELLO AGAIN, HACKNEY EVENT OFFERS



TWELFTH NIGHT

18-28 May, 3pm / 7.30pm

Separated from her twin brother in a shipwreck, Viola finds herself on the sun-kissed shores of Illyria. A world away from England's grey skies, this is a place of enticing freedom, yet strangely weighed down by a sense of a loss. £13. Hackney residents can get £5 off all tickets. Add 'HELLO HACKNEY' in the discount code box when prompted. The Tower Theatre, 16 Northwold Road, N16 7HR.

Info: towertheatre.org.uk/twelfth-night

SESSIONS WITH THE SCORPIOS

20 May, 9pm

Hailing from central Sudan, the Scorpios are a septet that melds Arabic rhythms and guitar chops with a raw Eastern funk feel, dismantling cultural barriers. Heavy bass, synths, horns and percussions drive through traditional Sudanese forms to create a sound that owes as much to Detroit as it does to Khartoum. £5 for Hackney residents. Input 'helloagainhackney' in the code promotion box at the checkout. Servant Jazz Quarters, 10A Bradbury St, N16 8JN. Info: bit.ly/SessionScorpios

SWAMP CITY

21 May, 5-6pm

Join multidisciplinary artist Alice Bucknell for an exclusive guided tour around Swamp City, her debut UK solo exhibition at HOXTON 253 art project space. The exhibition explores the crossovers between architecture, ecology, disaster capitalism, and non-human intelligence. All ages. Free. Hoxton 253 Art Project Space, 253 Hoxton Street, Whitmore Estate, N1 5LG. Info: hoxton253.com

AFRICAN DRUMMING WORKSHOP WITH ABASS DODOO

13 June, 6.30pm

If you are curious about African drumming or simply want to further your drumming journey, sign up for this workshop with Abass Doodoo. Born into a family of Royal master Ghanaian Drummers, Abass will take you through some classic rhythms for 1.5 hours followed by a healthy and nutritious vegan/veggie meal eaten together with Abass and members. £5. Grow Hackney, Main Yard, 98C Wallis Rd, E9 5LN. Info: bit.ly/DrumWorkshop_AD

RESIDENTS can take advantage of a new round of exciting discounts and free events as part of the 'Hello Again, Hackney' entertainment offers.

The 'Hello Again, Hackney' campaign, launched by the Council last July, was set up to help arts and cultural organisations in the borough

welcome back audiences safely as Covid-19 lockdown restrictions eased, with special offers, discounted tickets and pop-up events.

In this round of funding, over £300,000 was allocated to Hackney venues and organisations, with grants ranging from £2,500 to £10,000.

This funding has enabled a wide range of cultural organisations to create discount tickets or provide other incentives for Hackney residents to visit venues, through cultural events and activities.

For more info and offers, visit: lovehackney.uk/entertainment-offers

Hackney is one of the most diverse places in the UK. In this regular feature, we profile the borough's great & good or just plain interesting

hackneypeople

THIS year, Grand Union Orchestra (GUO) – a multinational orchestra based in east London – is celebrating its 40th anniversary.

During these four decades, the man at the helm, Tony Haynes, has composed all of the orchestra's spectacular live shows. Over the next two months, Grand Union is performing in venues across east London to commemorate this momentous milestone.

Tony says: "Audiences should expect to see their local neighbourhood represented on stage and listen to musicians that they would not usually encounter."

"They will experience the enjoyment of music – there's no particular genre or style. GUO brings together British musicians who represent many of the cultures flourishing in the UK – and many of them are first-generation migrants themselves."

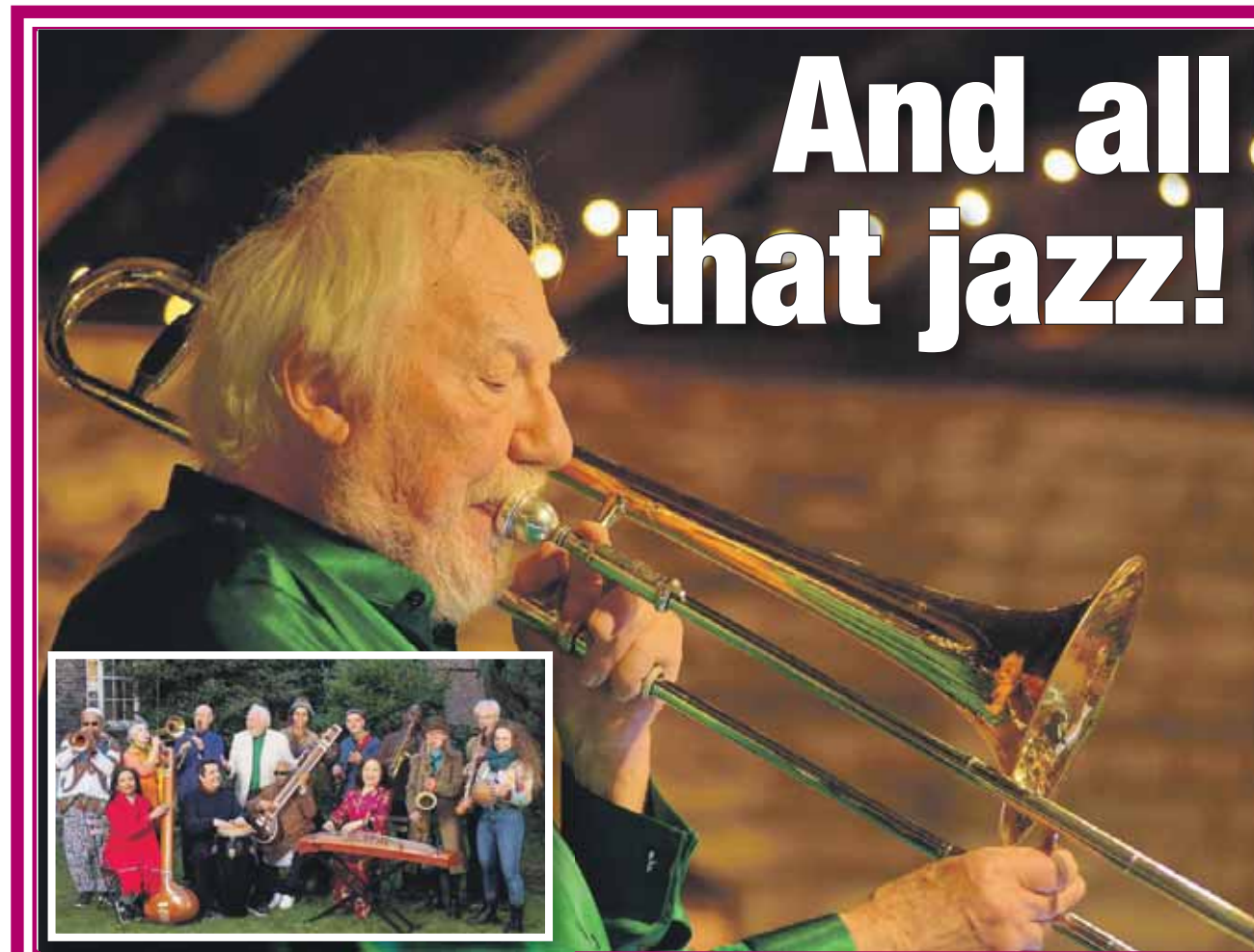
"The music intermixes these different cultures, and the performers bring their own identities to the music."

Tony co-founded GUO in 1982, where it started life as a small music theatre touring company.

Two years later, the Greater London Council (GLC) commissioned the orchestra to produce a piece for its Year against Racism. From there, GUO took off.

Tony explains: "Throughout my teens I was a working musician. In the 1960s I worked in France and Portugal as a club musician and then, in 1968, I got a lucky break and got the job of musical director at Nottingham Playhouse."

"From then, for the next 12 years, I wrote music extensively. I also worked for touring theatre companies in the 1970s. But, in 1982, I decided I wanted to run a music theatre company with



Tony Haynes, Composer and Creative Director of the Grand Union Orchestra (main) and members of the GUO (inset)

some friends.

"One of our first significant productions was called 'Strange Migration' – it was a piece about migration, exiles and refugees. But we could only do that if we had performers who had that lived experience."

"The company included a Ghanaian woman singer and drummer, a Chilean who had been imprisoned by Pinochet and a jazz and blues singer who had been a photographer in the Civil Rights movement in the United States of America."

In 1984 Tony wrote the critically acclaimed 'The Song of Many Tongues', for the GLC, exploring the themes of migration and exile and featuring musicians from Ghana, South Africa, Chile, Trinidad and the USA – together with musicians from the British Isles.

Today, GUO still maintains a company of performers from a variety of cultural backgrounds.

Its inspiration comes

Grand Union Orchestra brings together British musicians who represent many of the cultures flourishing in the UK

from the traditional folk music, songs and musical forms that draw on the cultural heritage of the musicians and performers including Chinese, African, Indian, Bengali, Latin American, Eastern and Western European.

From big band and Bengali brass, to reggae basslines and West African drumming, GUO represents a unified vision of multicultural Britain.

Tony says: "The

music always represents the experiences of the performers and resonates with our diverse contemporary audiences – and as such each show is joyous and liberating."

"I am the composer. I write all the original shows and I perform and direct where necessary."

"I'm a creative artist: my particular skills are as a composer, writing music and songs. I have a strong sense of melody."

Curriculum Vitae: Tony Haynes

- 1941** Born in Epsom Downs, Surrey
- 1968** Musical director at Nottingham Playhouse
- 1982** Co-founds Grand Union Orchestra as a music theatre touring company
- 1984** GUO, in its current name, is born
- 2007** Sets up the Grand Union Youth Orchestra
- 2022** GUO celebrates its 40th anniversary

"Many of the star musicians are great improvisers, so the whole thing sounds spontaneous, but my job is to create space for the soloists to give them context to play and sing."

Despite having musicians from all over the world, east London remains intrinsic to Tony's work.

He says: "Grand Union has toured extensively for 40 years but I've always done projects in east London, where we're based."

"I've always lived here, my whole adult life. I think it's a wonderful place to live. There are a lot of migrants, people from different cultures – as well as an inspiring history of its own. A lot of that history is important today."

"I love Hackney Empire and the pubs here. I live near London Fields and the park is a delight."

So, what next for Tony and the GUO?

He says: "We've been commissioned by the Council to create the

Shoreditch and Hoxton Community Orchestra, and we are creating projects in which young people, or amateur musicians, can be involved."

"The Youth Orchestra is for musicians over the age of 12. There are no auditions or fees. They play music from all over the world – it's in the mould of the Grand Union proper, with young musicians from other cultural backgrounds and heritages."

"Out of that has come the Re:Generation Band, for young adults over the age of 18 who are looking for a professional career in music."

"And we have done a lot of projects in and around Hackney and Tower Hamlets that are intergenerational."



Upcoming shows

WATCH one of GUO's 40th anniversary performances at a venue in east London:

- 15 May: GUO's Fortieth Anniversary Show at Hackney Empire**
- 21 May: GUO's 'Unwrapped' at St John Bethnal Green**
- 22 May: GUO's 'Bengal to Bethnal Green' at Rich Mix**
- 28 May: Shoreditch & Hoxton Community Orchestra & picnic at Hoxton Street Garden**
- 29 May: Shoreditch & Hoxton Community Orchestra at Shoreditch Town Hall**
- 2 June: Musicians from GUO to perform at Springfield Park's Queen's Jubilee Celebration event**

MORE INFO

For more information, and to book tickets to one of the upcoming shows, visit: grandunion.org.uk/live-shows



1

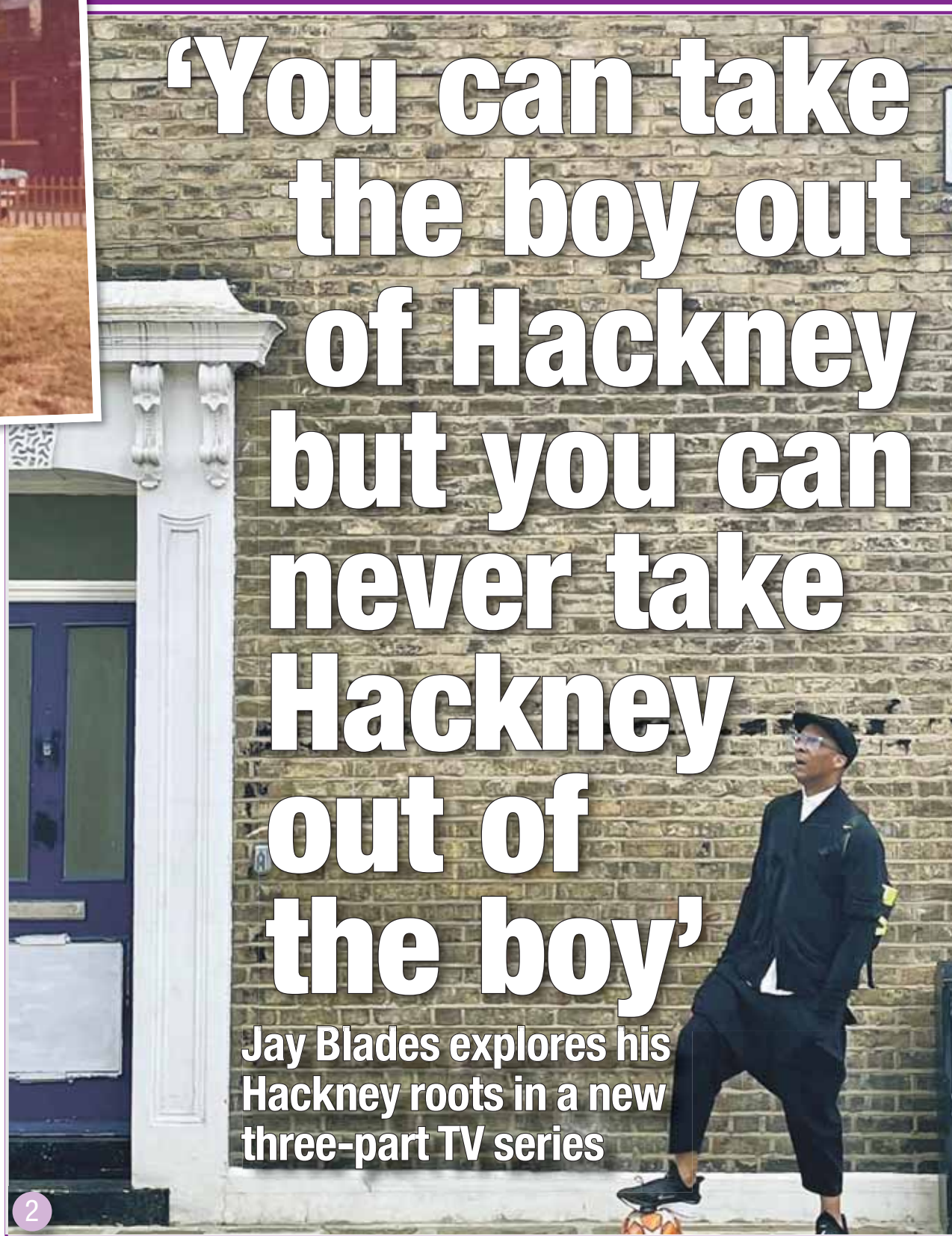
JAY Blades is a furniture restorer and TV personality who grew up in Hackney. A new series, called 'Jay Blades: No Place Like Home', follows Jay's return to the borough he thought he knew so well – to understand the history of the place that helped form him.

Jay says: "I know, through doing the work I do, that if you scratch the surface you come to realise that history is all around us.

"When I was growing up I didn't really realise the impression that growing up in Hackney would have on me. What it's done is it has allowed me to become who I am. It's still a big part of me.

"It's one of those places where, it's only when you move away from it, you realise how much it made you – how much it is you.

"You can take the boy out of Hackney but you can never take Hackney out of the boy."



2

'You can take the boy out of Hackney but you can never take Hackney out of the boy'

Jay Blades explores his Hackney roots in a new three-part TV series



3



4



5

Episode 1

IN THE first episode, Jay revisits his first home, in Stoke Newington's Nevill Road, where he and his mother were taken in by family in 1970, when he was a newborn baby.

On that same street he learns about the Zeppelin air raids that saw the first ever bombs raining down on London in 1915.

He explores the mythology built up around the infamous

Kray twins who once lived down his street and ran protection rackets, and he visits the Unitarian Church in Newington Green, where he is shocked by revelations of local slave owners.

He says: "It's almost like I've been hit by a bus. When you become aware of the details [of slavery] it just hits you."

Jay finishes his journey at Ridley Road Market, where he went every Saturday with his mum, and discovers a

lesser-known history of the market when he meets 91-year-old Jules Konopinski, who joined the 43 Group to fight fascism on the streets of Hackney.

Jay says: "This is me, this market. This market is embedded in me like you wouldn't believe. I've spent so much time here. This is where the community used to meet up."

"This is me, this [Ridley Road] market. This market is embedded in me like you wouldn't believe. This is where the community used to meet up"

Episode 2

IN EPISODE two Jay retraces his footsteps as a teenager in East London. He discovers how his old street, Londesborough Road, was transformed by a V1 rocket during the Second World War when he meets Doreen Lavelle – who can recall when the doodlebug hit, on 18 June 1944, killing 15 people.

Jay learns the historical significance of a 1970s West

Indian front room, and the objects he took for granted as a child, when he visits a recreation by playwright, artist and curator, Michael McMillan, at the Museum of the Home.

Jay says: "It's so amazing to have that childhood memory come flooding back – with just objects. This isn't just a reflection of Hackney, it's a reflection of all Caribbean houses."

He then revisits Hackney Empire, uncovering its rich



1. Jay Blades; 2. Jay returns to Osterley Road; 3. Hackney Empire; 4. A visit to Pellicci's; 5. With DJ Spoony in Dalston; 6. At the Rio Cinema; 7. Ridley Road Market; 8. The Rio; 9. Jay with Jules Konopinski, 91, who fought fascists in Hackney; 10. With DJ Spoony at the Museum of the Home; 11. Jay in Abney Park; 12. A West Indian living room on display at the Museum of the Home; 13. Statue of Sir Robert Geffrye (1613-1703), who donated money to build the almshouses that form part of the Museum of the Home; 14. Meeting World War Two survivor Doreen Lavelle

history as a music hall venue that rivalled West End theatres, and hosted East London's biggest Victorian star, Marie Lloyd, pictured right.

At the Rio cinema Jay looks through some of the 12,000 slides taken in the 1980s, as part of the Tape/Slide Archive, and is transported back in time – even spotting some familiar faces from his youth. Jay finishes his journey



where many of his teenage nights out ended – with his old friend, DJ Spoony, in Dalston.

Their favourite music venue the Four Aces is no longer standing but they meet one of its founders, Newton Dunbar.

Jay says: "With all of these entertainment pioneers it's as if they were shaping everyone in Hackney. But, ultimately, they shaped who I am today."

Episode 3

IN HIS final journey, Jay follows in the footsteps of his young adult self, learning about the philanthropist George Peabody, pictured right, who built thousands of homes in London – including one which he used to live in. On Hackney Central's main



thoroughfare, Mare Street, Jay explores a building that developers are restoring and finds a Victorian refuge for women prisoners inspired by Elizabeth Fry's legacy in prison reform. He visits one of the area's few remaining factories, Freed of London in Well Street, which makes ballet shoes by traditional methods dating back

to the early 20th century.

Then he discovers Loddiges family botanical gardens, which rivalled Kew's in the 1800s, when their greenhouse was the world's biggest – and whose last living vestiges may be Hackney Town Hall's palm trees.

Finally, Jay's journey of discovery ends where many previous inhabitants ended theirs – at Abney Park Cemetery, one of London's 'magnificent seven' cemeteries.

MORE INFO

Watch the final episode of 'Jay Blades: No Place Like Home' on 17 May at 9pm on Channel 5. Watch all three episodes on My5, Channel 5's catch-up service: channel5.com

Get all the latest news straight to your inbox!



Subscribe at www.hackney.gov.uk/newsletters





A healthy eating programme from Shoreditch Trust

www.shoreditchtrust.org.uk



SHOREDITCH Trust's Food For Life Programme works with members of the community to encourage affordable healthy eating, cooking skills and food knowledge. Classic comfort food with a twist! This healthy meatless take on an old hearty favourite is really filling. For a vegan version, don't use Worcestershire sauce or cheese.



Vegetable Shepherds Pie with sweet potato mash

Serves 4

Preparation time 20 mins 
Cooking time 60 mins 

Ingredients

- 2 parsnips, peeled
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 1 large onion, diced
- 2 sticks of celery, diced
- 2 large carrots, peeled and diced
- 2 tablespoons chopped thyme
- 400g can of chopped tomatoes
- 1 tbsp Worcestershire sauce (use Tabasco sauce for vegans)
- 350ml vegetable stock
- 400g cooked lentils or beans
- 1kg sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks
- 25g butter (or coconut oil for vegans)
- 80g mature cheddar cheese, grated
- Black pepper to season.

Method

- Pre-heat oven to 190°C/ Gas 5
- Heat the oil in a frying pan, then fry the onion until golden. Add the carrots, celery and thyme and cook for 5 minutes. Add the stock, tomatoes and Worcestershire sauce and simmer for 10 minutes. Add the lentils or beans, cover and simmer for another 10 minutes
- Meanwhile, boil the sweet potatoes for 15 minutes until tender. Drain well, then mash with the butter and season with black pepper
- Pile the lentil mixture into a pie dish, spoon the mash on top, then sprinkle over the cheese
- Cook for 20 minutes until golden and hot all the way through.

More info

For more information, or to book, call: 020 7033 8529;
e-mail: food@shoreditchtrust.org.uk; or visit:
www.shoreditchtrust.org.uk/Food-for-Life



Have your say on draft Contaminated Land Strategy

OVER the past year, the Council has been working to update its Contaminated Land Strategy (CLS).

This strategy sets out the Council's approach to addressing any potential land contamination in Hackney. Although heavy industry has been absent from the borough in recent years, historically it would have been the location of industries that would often use materials such as metals, petrols and chemicals to

produce goods.

The draft takes into account new laws and regulations that have helped to tackle contaminated land and ensure the environment remains protected and safe to build on.

This draft establishes a process for inspecting and dealing with any contamination that is found, and allows for the Council to deal with any potential contamination at the early stages of development.

The Council is keen to hear the thoughts of residents on this strategy before taking it to Cabinet later this year. Physical copies of the draft strategy are available to view at Hackney libraries as well as in Hackney Town Hall.

Comments and feedback will close on 5 June.

For further information, call: 020 8356 4827.

To view the CLS, visit: consultation.hackney.gov.uk

Meetings

COUNCIL MEETINGS IN MAY

25 Annual Meeting	7pm
30 Cabinet	6pm
31 Licensing Committee	7pm

COUNCIL MEETINGS IN JUNE

8 Audit Committee	6.30pm
9 Licensing Sub-Committee	2pm
13 Cabinet Procurement and Insourcing Committee	5pm
13 Joint Living in Hackney and Children and Young People Scrutiny Commission	7pm
14 Licensing Sub-Committee	7pm
15 Pensions Committee	6.30pm

16 Health and Wellbeing Board	4pm
16 Planning Sub-Committee	6.30pm
16 Licensing Sub-Committee	7pm
20 Skills, Economy and Growth Scrutiny Commission	7pm
21 Licensing Sub-Committee	2pm
23 Licensing Sub-Committee	2pm
23 Health in Hackney	7pm
23 Licensing Sub-Committee	7pm
27 Cabinet	6pm
29 Inner North East London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee	7pm
30 Licensing Sub-Committee	7pm

Info: 020 8356 3316/3302/3312; or visit: www.hackney.gov.uk/council-and-elections

Notice of application for a premises licence

Notice is given that **MADISON J LILLI COUPLAND** has applied to **HACKNEY COUNCIL** for a premises licence at: HALO WELLNESS SPACE G10, 8 MACKINTOSH LANE E9 6AB

In order that the following licensable activities can take place:

MASSAGE / SPECIAL TREATMENT (MST)

Anyone wishing to oppose the application must give notice, in writing, to the **Licensing Service Manager, London Borough of Hackney, 1 Hillman Street, London, E8 1DY**, within **THREE WEEKS** from the date of publication of this Notice, specifying the grounds for opposition.

Persons objecting to the grant of a licence must be prepared to attend a hearing before a Committee of the Council.

Sudoku

For solutions see:
www.hackney.gov.uk/hackney-today

Easy

			6	1	5	
4	1			7		2
9	2			5		
	6			5		1
7		9			2	3
	8			3		9
			8			6 7
1				6		2 9
	7		4	2		

Medium

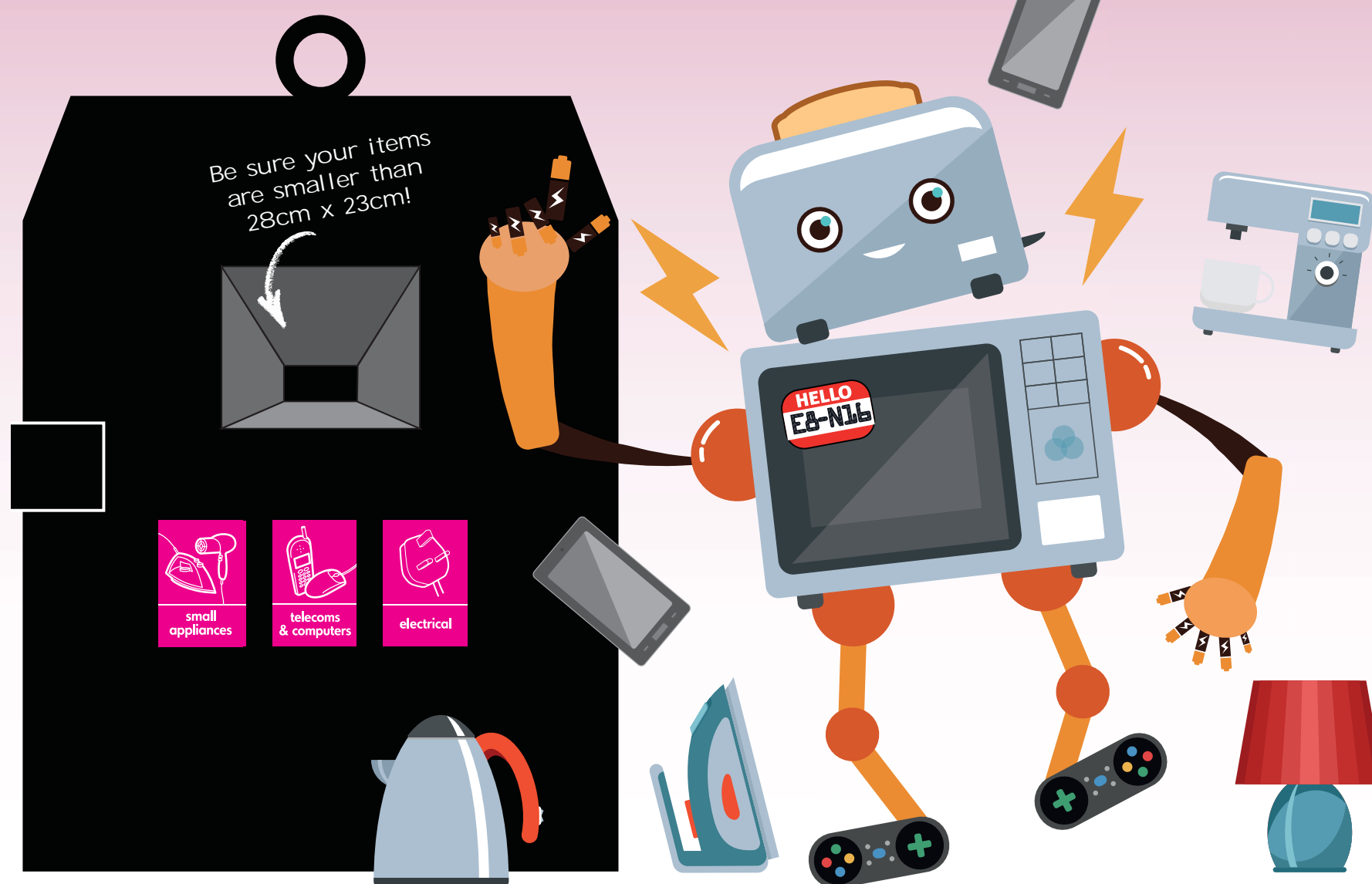
4				8		
7			4		5 8	
		6		1 9		2
			3			1
	6 5 9			1 2 7		
	7			5		
	8		5 3		9	
	3 2			7		6
			8			2

Recycling points for small electrical items

To make it easy to recycle, we have recycling banks all around Hackney for **small items** like phones, toasters, kettles, irons and DVD players.

Find your nearest electrical recycling bank:
hackney.gov.uk/electricals

Cables, plugs and chargers can all be recycled too



hackney.gov.uk/electricals

Produced by Hackney Design, Communications & Print • HD55137

Hackney